

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/841,471

Examiner

Boris Benenson

Applicant(s)

VINCIARELLI ET AL.

Art Unit

2836

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7.16.2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-14,25-36 and 40-42.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 9.23.2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
  - \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

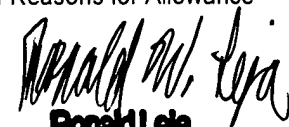
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets" ) must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948 ) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 7/16/2004
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

  
**Ronald Leja**  
Primary Examiner  
8/19/04

***Detailed Actions***

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Claims 15-24 and 37-39 had been withdrawn from the application by amendment received on 1/15/2004 due a restrictions requirement.

The application has been amended as follows: Cancel claims 15-24 and 37-39.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 1-14, 25-36 and 40-42 are allowed.

***The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:***

3. Independent Claim 1 is allowable because none of the prior art of record disclose an apparatus having two or more electronic components which protect external circuit against one or more adverse electrical events that drawing more than a

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threshold amount of current wherein none of the electronic components has rating by itself to protect the external circuit in combination with the other claim limitations.

4. Claims 2-12 are dependent on allowable Claim 1 and therefore allowable.

5. Independent Claim 13 is allowable because none of the prior art of record disclose an apparatus for protecting an external circuit against occurrence of an adverse electrical event in which the internal circuit includes elements adapted to pull up a voltage at one of the terminals when the voltage at the terminal drops and elements adapted to pull down the voltage at the one of the terminals when the voltage at the terminal rises in combination with the other claim limitations.

6. Claims 14 and 40 are dependent on allowable Claim 13 and therefore allowable.

7. Independent Claim 25 is allowable because none of the prior art of record disclose a protection circuit comprising a first and second protection mechanism to provide different kind of protection for external circuit using at least two controlled

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elements, wherein the first protection mechanism provides a current drain on a power source to pull the voltage down at a point of load in combination with the other claim limitations.

8. Claims 26-36 are dependent on allowable Claim 25 and therefore allowable.

9. Independent Claims 41 and 42 are allowable because none of the prior art of record disclose an apparatus for protecting an external circuit against occurrence of an adverse electrical event in including an energy reservoir at a predetermined voltage, and in which the protection mechanism shunts current to the energy reservoir in combination with the other claim limitations.

10. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### Contact information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Boris Benenson whose telephone number is (571) 272-2048. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:20-6:00) First Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus can be reached on (571) 272-2800 x 36. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Boris Benenson  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2836

B.B.

**Ronald Leja**  
**Primary Examiner**  
*Ronald A. Leja*  
8/19/24